Docket No. 87345.1640 Application No. 09/911,288 Customer No. 30734



Patent 3682

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)	Confirmation No.: 2875
Brian J. BERDAN, et al.)	Group Art Unit: 3682
Application No.: 09/911,288)	Examiner: Julie Knecht Smith
Filed: July 23, 2001)	·
For: EXTENSIBLE LACK HANDLE)	

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR § 1.116

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Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is in response to the final Office Action dated December 16, 2003 to which a response is due without an extension by March 16, 2004. In view of the following amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to reconsider and withdraw the outstanding rejections and allow all claims pending in the application.

Please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page $\underline{2}$ of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 4 of this paper.

Amendments to the Drawings begin on page 9 of this paper and include both an attached replacement sheet and an annotated sheet showing changes.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 10 of this paper.